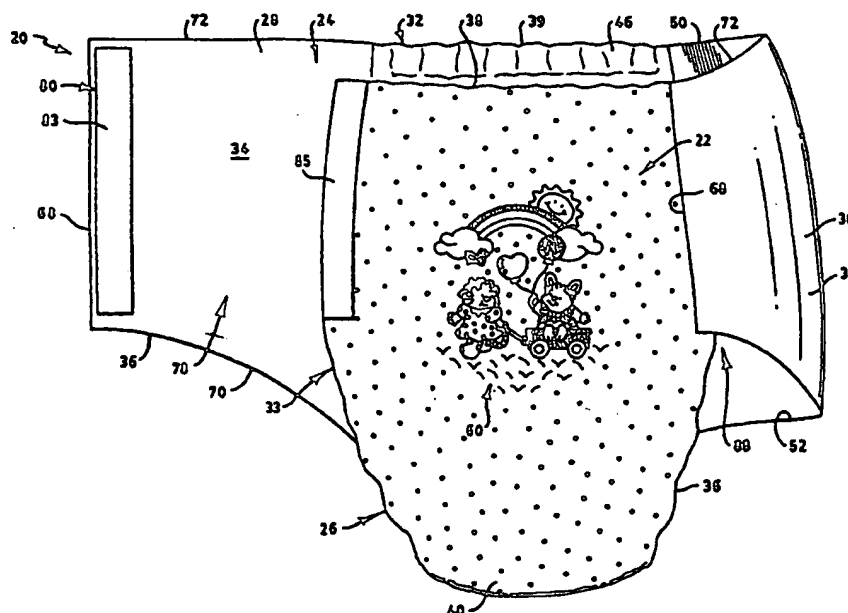




INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 7 : A61F 13/15		A3	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/35395
			(43) International Publication Date: 22 June 2000 (22.06.00)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/30091		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date: 16 December 1999 (16.12.99)			
(30) Priority Data: 60/112,708 18 December 1998 (18.12.98) US 09/444,080 22 November 1999 (22.11.99) US			
(71) Applicant: KIMBERLY-CLARK WORLDWIDE, INC. [US/US]; 401 N. Lake Street, Neenah, WI 54956 (US).			
(72) Inventors: DIMITRIJEVS, Lisa, Ann; 40 Bluemound Court #8, Appleton, WI 54914 (US). FLETCHER, Amy, Lynn; 4300 North Woodridge Drive, Appleton, WI 54913 (US). OLSON, Christopher, Peter; 1012 Pendleton Road, Neenah, WI 54956 (US). RATLIFF, Kathleen, Irene; 1058 Laurel Court, Neenah, WI 54956 (US). WEBER, Shirlee, Ann; 1576 Nelson Court, Neenah, WI 54956 (US). WEST, Susan; Lee; 1747 Mill Pond Court, Neenah, WI 54956 (US).		Published With international search report.	
(74) Agents: GAGE, Thomas, M. et al.; Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc., 401 North Lake Street, Neenah, WI 54956 (US).		(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 23 November 2000 (23.11.00)	

(54) Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH GARMENT-LIKE REFASTENABLE SEAMS



(57) Abstract

A disposable absorbent article includes a fastening system that can be repeatedly fastened, unfastened and refastened. The refastenable seams formed by the fastening system components provide a garment-like appearance.

Ref. #37
KCC 4770 (K.C. No. 17,310)
Robert L. Popp et al.
Serial No. 10/036,573

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece	ML	Mali	TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	MN	Mongolia	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MR	Mauritania	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MW	Malawi	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MX	Mexico	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	NE	Niger	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NL	Netherlands	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NO	Norway	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NZ	New Zealand	ZW	Zimbabwe
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	PL	Poland		
CM	Cameroon	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CN	China	KZ	Kazakhstan	RO	Romania		
CU	Cuba	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
CZ	Czech Republic	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DE	Germany	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
DK	Denmark	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		
EE	Estonia						

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/US 99/30091

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61F13/15

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 97 36566 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 9 October 1997 (1997-10-09) abstract; figures 1,3 page 7, line 15 - line 27	1-3, 5-10, 12, 13, 15, 17-29
A	US 5 531 732 A (WOOD LEIGH E) 2 July 1996 (1996-07-02) abstract; figure 1	1-29
A	DE 35 33 881 A (GILOMEN ESTHER) 3 April 1986 (1986-04-03) abstract; figures 1,3	1-29

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 June 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

05/07/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3018

Authorized officer

Westermayer, W

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 99/30091

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9736566 A	09-10-1997	US 5897545 A	27-04-1999
		AU 2334797 A	22-10-1997
		BR 9708519 A	03-08-1999
		CA 2251694 A	09-10-1997
		EP 0959855 A	01-12-1999
		JP 11507286 T	29-06-1999
		US 5957908 A	28-09-1999
US 5531732 A	02-07-1996	CA 2190958 A	21-12-1995
		EP 0765148 A	02-04-1997
		JP 10503096 T	24-03-1998
		WO 9534266 A	21-12-1995
DE 3533881 A	03-04-1986	AT 397459 B	25-04-1994
		CH 664879 A	15-04-1988
		AT 80486 A	15-09-1993